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THE HARTFORD COURANT
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'Campaign for Real Rock' festival features 50 local bands

By ROGER CATLIN

Courant Rock Critic 1054A

Out of revulsion for a "modern rock" mentality that has ignored local independent bands, a huge Hartford rock festival is being planned for next month.

"The Campaign for Real Rock," named after the Edwyn Collins song, will feature no less than 50 bands — most with Connecticut ties — in multiband bills at the Municipal Cafe and at Trinity College.

Among those confirmed for the five-day, all-ages event Nov. 20-24 are the Reducers, Miracle Legion, Creature Did, Gnu Fuzz, Bunny Brains, Musical Chairs, Tizzy and the Gravel Pit.

Among the touring national acts thrown in for good measure are Velvet Crush, Go Sailor (with former members of Tiger Trap and the Softies), My Favorite of New York, Mary Timony of Helium, and Syrup U.S.A. (ex-Swirlies).

Says organizer Brian Sinclair, who has booked many of the same bands to his "Notes from the Underground" series for Trinity station WRTC-FM (89.3): "I wanted to have a music festival that had something to do with music, and give an opportunity for a lot of these bands to play Hartford more than once."

He's planning to offer a series ticket at about \$25 for admission to all the shows that week; there will be a booklet with biographies of all the bands, and a record show as well.

Details are coming.

WHAT'S NEW

Michelle Shocked, whose long-suppressed "Kind Hearted Women" is just out on Private Issue records, plays Chapin Auditorium at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Mass., on Nov. 6.

Laurie Anderson's "The Speed of Darkness" tour plays the same hall on Nov. 7.

Tickets go on sale Saturday at 10 a.m. for the **Deep Purple** show at the Meadows Music Theatre Nov. 23. It's the first major tour

■ **Michelle Shocked** performs at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Mass., Nov. 6.



by the band since 1987, which now includes former Dixie Dreg Steve Morse on guitar along with Roger Glover, Jon Lord, Ian Paice and Ian Gillan. In England, the band has released a 25th anniversary edition of its "Fireball" album, remastered with some singles and outtakes, including the previously unreleased "Slow Train" and an instrumental first take of "Fireball."

Jason Falkner opens the Suzanne Vega show at the Northampton, Mass., Academy of Music Wednesday. Vega's band includes Mitchell Froom, Pete Thomas, Steve Donnelly and Mike Visceglia.

Pete Townshend was surprise guest at Neil Young's 10th annual benefit last weekend for the Bridge School, a Bay Area facility for handicapped kids. Also on the bill that night: Pearl Jam, David Bowie, Patti Smith and Cowboy Junkies, who all joined Young for a long, show-ending version of his "Helpless." Young plays the Meadows Nov. 8; Townshend brings what's left of his old band The Who to the Worcester Centrum a few days later, on Nov. 12 and 14.

Ray Davies, fresh from his performances in Stamford Sunday, will play his most sobering television performance tonight at 11 p.m. — on QVC.

IN THE CASINO

Entertainment in the new Mohegan Sun casino in the Uncasville section of Montville will be slightly less spectacular than the decor. The only notable dates for free shows in the Wolf Den lounge is Little Anthony & the Imperials Nov. 8-10. Shows by Jose Feliciano, Rockapella and Joey Dee & the Starlighters are scheduled for unspecified dates later this year.

Nearby Foxwoods Resort Casino, twice as big in size, continues to book acts more than twice as big in stature (for a fee, of course). Wynonna Judd plays Foxwoods March 7-9. Other acts next year include Rob Bartlett Jan. 10-11, Connie Francis Jan. 24-25, Lou Rawls and Nancy Wilson Feb. 15, Bobby Vinton Feb. 21-22, Gladys Knight Feb. 28-March 1, and Mel Tillis March 2-3.

The Bayside Boys are credited with only the English-language mix that made "Macarena" by Los Del Rios not only a dance sensation bigger than the twist, but one of the longest-reigning No. 1 songs in history (it notches its 14th week next week). But with a hit this big, remixers suddenly become performers, and the Bayside Boys are scheduled to play a Macarena Costume Party at the Foxwoods nightclub Nov. 1 for those 21 and older.

"Jesus Christ Superstar" on its "final farewell tour" with Ted Neeley plays the Paramount Theatre in Springfield Nov. 30.

Sarah McLachlan, who hosted an all-woman fair in four cities with such artists as Patti Smith, Emmylou Harris and Suzanne Vega called Liliith Fair, will expand the concept to an eight-week tour next summer with such confirmed performers on the two stages as McLachlan, Neneh Cherry, Lisa Loeb, Paula Cole and Aimee Mann.

Dar Williams addresses the Connecticut Songwriters Association meeting Nov. 25 at East Hartford Town Hall. She performs at Cheney Hall in Manchester Dec. 6.

The Pat Travers Band headlines a rock and blues benefit for AIDS Nov. 8 at Pauli's in Hartford. Also scheduled to appear are Burt Teague, Jeff Pevar and Jimi Bell's

guitar summit as well as Danny Formica, Gene Donaldson, Mark Nomad and members of Max Creek.

IN THE CLUBS

Canada's Crash Test Dummies, whose latest album, "A Worm's Life" is just out, play the Webster Theatre in Hartford Nov. 9 with Ashley Mac Isaac.

John Mellencamp has agreed to play a concert at Irving Plaza in New York Wednesday in support of the Grammy in the School program.

Peter Wolf plays Toad's Place in New Haven Nov. 22. Nada Surf plays a show with Jawbox Nov. 13; reggae's Capleton is there Nov. 12.

Capleton also plays Mikara's nightclub in Springfield Nov. 7. James Cotton is there Nov. 16.

Hannah Cranna, whose new album was produced in West Hartford by Joey Molland of Badfinger, plays the GPSCY Bar at Yale University in New Haven Saturday with Chopper and Mollycoddle. The band also plays the El 'N' Gee in New London Nov. 8 with Splitsville (formerly The Greenberry Woods).

In addition to opening the Gravity Kills show at Toad's tonight, Republica will be in Hartford headlining a Halloween party sponsored by WMRQ-FM (104.1) at the Brick Yard on Oct. 31. It's free.

Max Creek plays its first "Black Cat Ball and Psychedelic Halloween Festoon" Oct. 31 at the University of Connecticut ROTC hangar in Storrs. Costumes, of course, are requested. Advance tickets are available at Strawberries.

The Flaco Jimenez show at the Iron Horse Music Hall in Northampton, Mass., on Tuesday has been canceled. Combustible Edison is there Friday.

Godflesh plays Tuxedo Junction in Danbury Nov. 10 with Vod.

Write to Roger Catlin in care of Sound Check, The Hartford Courant, 285 Broad St., Hartford CT 06115. Please include a telephone number.